REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 49-50 are pending in the application. Claims 7 and 13-48 have been cancelled. New Independent Claim 50 has been added.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-6, 8-9, 12 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,347,218 to Fuhrmann et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,073,027 to Norman et al. The Office Action also rejects Claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,347,218 to Fuhrmann et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,073,027 to Norman et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,889,139 to Prabhakaran.

Independent Claim 1 is directed towards a removable housing for a radiotelephone. More particularly, independent Claim 1 provides an electronic radiotelephone having a first housing and a second housing for housing electronic components of the radiotelephone. The radiotelephone of independent Claim 1 includes a first and second housing for housing electronic components of the radiotelephone and a biasing mechanism to aid a user to release the second housing from the first housing. The radiotelephone of independent Claim 1 also includes an element for providing user releasable coupling of the first housing and the second housing. The element has an operating surface and a formation. The formation co-operates with a complementary formation on the second housing. The element is movable between a first and a second position such that when the element is in the first position the formation and complementary formation co-operate to allow the first housing to be coupled to the second housing and when the element is in the second position to allow the second housing to be removed from the first housing by the user. Independent Claim 1 further includes the biasing mechanism that comprises a compression biased releasing mechanism **and** a compression biased urging mechanism, the compression biased releasing mechanism being arranged to resiliently compression bias the element into the first position to allow a user to actuate the element, via the operating surface, against the compression bias into the second position to release the co-operation of the formation and complementary formation thereby allowing the housings to be

removed from one another, and wherein the compression biased urging mechanism is arranged to be in resilient compression to store energy when the formation and complementary formation are coupled and to automatically urge the first and second housings away from each other when the coupling of the formation and the complementary formation are released by releasing energy stored in the compression biased urging mechanism.

The Fuhrmann reference allegedly describes an electronic device (radiotelephone), in reference to Col. 1, lines 9-10, having a shell-shaped housing including a first and second housing for housing electronic components of the radiotelephone in reference to Fig. 1, elements 1, 14 and a biasing mechanism to aid a user to release the second housing from the first housing in reference to Fig. 1, elements 12-13 & 17. The Fuhrmann reference further allegedly discloses the first housing having an element, with an operating surface, and a formation which co-operates with a complementary formation on the second housing for user releasable coupling of the first housing and the second housing in reference to Fig. 1, elements 12-13 & 17. The Fuhrmann reference is also alleged to disclose the element being movable between a first and a second position such that when the element is in the first position the formation and complementary formation co-operate to allow the first housing to be coupled to the second housing and when the element is in the second position to allow the second housing to be removed from the first housing by the user in reference to Fig.'s 1-2.

However, the Fuhrmann '218 patent does not specifically teach or disclose the biasing mechanism comprises a compression biased releasing mechanism and a compression biased urging mechanism, the compression biased releasing mechanism being arranged to resiliently compression bias the element into the first position to allow a user to actuate the element, via the operating surface, against the compression bias into the second position to release the co-operation of the formation and complementary formation thereby allowing the housings to be removed from one another, and wherein the compression biased urging mechanism is arranged to be in resilient compression to store energy when the formation and complementary formation are coupled and to automatically urge the first and second housings away from each other when the coupling of the formation and the complementary formation are released by releasing energy

stored in the compression biased urging mechanism as is admitted on Page 4 of the Office Action. Accordingly, the Office Action relies on the Norman '027 patent for the deficiency as disclosing these features in reference to Col. 8, lines 17-49.

The Norman '027 patent may teach some form of "*compression biased releasing mechanism*" but does not provide any disclosure or suggestion of a "*compression biased urging mechanism*". As presently set forth by the claim, "*the compression biased urging mechanism is arranged to be in resilient compression to store energy when the formation and complimentary formation are coupled and to automatically urge the first and second housings away from each other when the coupling of the formation and the complimentary formation are released by releasing energy stored in the compression based urging mechanism*". In contrast, the Norman reference provides a "*compression spring 104*" as part of the "*compression biased releasing mechanism*". The examiner will appreciate that this compression spring 104 does not urge apart the first and second housings (no urging apart in the Z-plane). The compression spring 104 merely acts "*to bias the actuator arm towards the release button 96*". Therefore, **it never releases any energy to urge apart the first and second housings — as presently claimed**. In contrast, energy is only released when the user no longer presses the release button 96, when the first and second housings are engaged. By pressing release button 96, the user acts against the compression spring 104 to disengage the latch pins 114 and 106 from the access holes 66. **In other words, this mechanism acts as a compression biased releasing mechanism**. Therefore, the Norman patent clearly does not teach or disclose the biasing mechanism comprises a compression biased **releasing** mechanism **and** a compression biased **urging** mechanism. Likewise, none of the other cited references cure this deficiency and, as such, no combination of the cited references teach or suggest independent Claim 1.

Since each of the dependent claims includes the recitations of the respective independent claims, each of the dependent claims is also patentable distinct from the cited references, taken individually or in combination, for at least the same reasons as described above in conjunction with amended independent Claim 1. It is noted, however, that the dependent claims include

additional recitations that may further patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the cited references.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 49 as being rendered obvious by the Fuhrmann '218 patent in view of the Norman '027 patent, taken either individually or in combination with one or more secondary references, has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amended claims and the remarks presented above, the Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If deemed necessary, in order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON November 19, 2007 by Gwen Frickhoeffer.